Summary for Journalism Tutorial on Developing the Idea

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This article talks about how to basically choose which ideas are good enough to write about. First you must brainstorm the idea, this can be done by yourself but it works better with a conversation with someone. Once someone decides on an idea they think will be a good article the best thing to do it talk the idea over with someone. After this ask yourself the following seven questions. Does it have timeliness? Is it important? Will it be of general interest to the reader? Is it relevant? Does it involve the public’s right to know? Does it involve the public’s need to know? Will it inform, educate, guide, or entertain readers? If all these questions are yes about the article then the article is good enough to write about.

More on Journalism

In this article Peter Cole says that journalistic and creative writing are different because journalistic writing is mainly new such as a newspaper, where the reader mainly skims to get the idea of the story then moves on; whereas in creative writing the product is stories and nothing else. This gets the reader to actually read the story instead of skimming the story. The best storytellers all have one thing in common and that is that they have a style of telling the story that uses emphasis during the duration of the story to keep the listener’s attention.

Interview

Who told it?

Dad

What made it great?

Tone

Why did it keep your attention?

Amusing

Was it short or long?

Very long

Does length make a difference?

Always

What about word choice?

Yes

Would the story be different if it were in written form?

No

What would change?

Nothing

Describe the author’s voice.

Deep voice